(ix) Optimizing Teacher-Student ratios.

(x) Enlarging research and encouraging innovation on campuses.

(xi) Remedial Courses for weaker sections.

Shortage of qualified staff in engineering colleges

3607. SHRI ABDUL WAHAB PEEVEE: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether many engineering colleges, mostly in southern States are facing problems of shortage of qualified staff;

(b) if so, the details thereof, particularly in Kerala; and

(c) the steps taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (c) There is a shortage of teaching staff in the country, including the State of Kerala. As per the report of the Committee on "Faculty Development in Technical Education" constituted by the All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) under the Chairmanship of Prof. P. Rama Rao, the total shortage of teaching staff in engineering & technology, during 2005-06, for the country as a whole, was about 40,000. This shortage was estimated based on the AICTE norms of teacher to student ratio as 1:15. Considering the shortage of well-qualified technical faculty in the country, the age of superannuation of teachers in Central Institutions has been enhanced from 62 years to 65 years. They can further be reemployed after superannuation till the age of 70 years.

Fee hike in private schools in Delhi

3608. SHRI MAHENDRA MOHAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that private schools in Delhi are considering fee hike due to the recommendations of the Sixth Central Pay Commission;

(b) whether this hike is going to be 30 to 40 per cent;

(c) if so, whether Government would consider adopting some uniform fee structure for all the private schools, so that schools charge reasonable fee;

(d) whether Government would have realistic assessment of the Sixth Central Pay Commission and wage hike of school teachers and adopt uniform pattern; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALI ASHRAF FATMI): (a) and (b) A few private schools in Delhi have informed the Govt. of NCT of Delhi about their intention to revise their fee structure after the final decision of the Government on Sixth Pay Commission recommendations is taken. These schools have not indicated quantum of hike in their fee structure.

(c) The Govt. of NCT of Delhi *vide* their order dated 15.12.99 has directed to the Management of the recognized unaided schools in Delhi to regulate the fee structure as per the instructions contained in that order.

(d) and (e) Recommendations of Sixth Central Pay Commission are yet to be accepted by the Government.

Allocation of seats for economically backward children

3609. SHRI MAHENDRA MOHAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is considering to allot 25 per cent seats in private schools to economically backward children;

(b) if so, the details in this regard;

(c) whether it is a fact that schools get land at subsidized cost with the promise to give some seats to economically poor children;

(d) if so, how many schools have been complying with this directive;

(e) how many schools in Delhi have given extra points to economically backward children for school admissions; and

(f) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALI ASHRAF FATMI): (a) and (b) Following an interim order of the High Court of Delhi, the Education Department of Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi had issued orders on 25-01-2007 regarding provision of free seats to the extent of not less than twenty per cent of total seats in each school for students belonging to economically weaker section in unaided recognized private schools in Delhi which have been allotted land by the Government Agencies.

(c) The State/Union Territory Governments allot land on concessional rates to Institutions with certain terms and conditions which may vary from State to State. The monitoring and enforcement of the conditions imposed are the responsibilities of the State/UT Governments concerned.

(d) to (f) The list of private schools in Delhi which are providing seats to children belonging to economically weaker section during the academic year 2008-09 is not readily available with the Government of NCT of Delhi as the admission process is not completed.

Institutions without AICTE approval

3610. SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the educational institutions in the country that do not still have the approval of AICTE, State-wise;

(b) whether information about such institutions is published by AICTE for the benefit of minority community students;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and